

Attorney Docket No. 29195-8183US
Semitool Ref No. P01-0006**REMARKS**

The present amendment amends claims 5, 13, 17, and 22. These amendments are largely cosmetic in nature and do not limit the scope of the claims in any way. To the contrary, some of the amendments actually broaden the original claim scope.

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the application in view of this preliminary amendment. If the Examiner has any questions or matters that can be expeditiously handled by telephone, he or she is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (206) 359-3848.

Respectfully submitted,
Perkins Coie LLP

Date: 10 Nov 03


Edward S. Hotchkiss
Registration No. 33,904

Correspondence Address:
Customer No. 25096
Perkins Coie LLP
P.O. Box 1247
Seattle, Washington 98111-1247
(206) 359-8000

[00000-0000/SL033000.311]

-8-